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1929  
Catalog of

# FINE PEONIES

from

The ROBERTS ROSE COMPANY

3450 South Emerson Street

ENGLEWOOD, COLORADO

P. O. Box 277

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U. S. Department of Agriculture

The Peony is the Queen of the June flowers. Its vigor and hardiness recommends it to the gardener and the profusion of fine blooms makes an appeal to every one. Given their few simple requirements, they repay the planter more generously than do any other hardy herbaceous plant. A well planted bed of good peonies is an asset of constantly increasing value.

**CULTURE.** Inasmuch as peony roots are set for ten years or more the soil they are planted in should be of the best. If the soil is impoverished, a hole three feet deep, the size of the bed to be planted should be dug and a foot of old manure put in the bottom. Wet and pack this and fill the hole to the top with the best soil available. First class dirt for this purpose is the spent soil or so-called "bench dirt" from greenhouses growing roses. Before the peonies are put in, this bed must be settled to its final level. **This is very important.** Peonies that are planted too deep or that are later covered to a depth of over three inches will either bloom very poorly or not at all.

IN ALMOST EVERY CASE THE UNSATISFACTORY BLOOMING OF PEONIES IS DUE TO TOO DEEP PLANTING. Buds that dry up without opening and a growth of very weak, spindly stems are other indications of this error. It is our observation that half of all the peonies planted fail to give the blooms expected of them because of too deep planting.

THE OTHER OUTSTANDING CAUSE FOR FAILURE OF PEONIES IS IMPROPER MOVING. Once set, they should be left alone. If moving is imperative do it in the fall and divide the plant to about a three eye division. It has been our experience that if the plant is much over five years old, it would probably be better to buy a new three eye division and discard the old plant. The life of a peony is from ten to fifteen years, not bearing its first perfect bloom until three or four years of age.

The proper spacing of peonies is three feet apart in each direction. Annuals can be used to cover the bare spots in the bed for the first year or two. Peonies are very effective placed directly in front of shrub planting but the best location is in a bed where they are not crowded by coarser growing plants.

**WATERING AND MULCHING.** Peonies take plenty of water when setting buds and until the flowers start to open. From then on water very moderately. A heavy straw mulch over the bed the first winter will keep the plants from heaving with frost. After the first year the bed will be benefitted by a moderate mulching of half old manure but take great caution not to let any manure touch the roots or stems of the plants.

**PEONY RATINGS.** By means of the votes of its members, the American Peony Society rates all peonies on the basis of a hundred, which represents perfection. These ratings immediately follow the names in the list below. The prices of peonies depends on the supply and demand, so that peonies which have been in cultivation many years, such as *Festiva Maxima*, are less expensive than the high rating would indicate. The newer varieties are always the more expensive.

The varieties we offer were selected after careful study and each is good value at the quoted price. **TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT LATER, PEONIES SHOULD ALWAYS BE BOUGHT SOLELY ON A QUALITY BASIS.**

We guarantee all our peonies to be healthy and absolutely true to name.

Nearly all of the peonies in the following list bloom in our garden each year. You are invited to visit them and make your own comparison of values.



## EARLY WHITE

Price

**Festiva Maxima, 93**—(Miellez, 1853). A large and very popular white peony with center petals flecked red. A tall, strong, free bloomer of the rose type. \$0.75

**Jubilee, 89**—(Pleas, 1908). Rose type of ivory white, changing to pure white. Very large flowers in clusters on tall stems. \$3.00

**Laura Dessert, 88**—(Dessert, 1903). Cream-white guard petals with light yellow center. Classed as a rose type but very near the bomb. The nearest approach to a yellow peony. \$5.00

**LeCynge, 99**—(Lemoine, 1907). A superb milk-white peony of globular, compact habit with incurved petals. An immense, free bloomer with the darkest of green foliage. This is the finest of all white peonies. \$9.00

**Mme. Jules Dessert, 94**—(Dessert, 1909). White, overlaid with delicate tints of pink and buff, splashed with carmine. Flowers large and well formed with long, broad petals and a few golden stamens adding to their beauty. \$3.00

**Secretary Fewkes, 91**—(Shaylor). A large, full, creamy white peony with lighter center. The rose type with a rose fragrance. \$4.00

### MID-SEASON WHITE

**James Kelway, 87**—(Kelway, 1900). A rose-white changing to milk-white. Flowers borne in clusters and fragrant. A tall free bloomer of the semi-rose type. \$1.50

**Kelway's Glorious, 98**—(Kelway, 1909). Cream white overlaid with a soft rose blush. Flowers of the double rose type. One of the very finest whites. \$15.00

**La Rosiere, 83**—(Crousse, 1888). White flower, flat and interspersed with golden stamens, resembling a water lily. A free bloomer and in clusters. \$1.00

**Marie Jacquin, 83**—(Verdier). Beautiful flower of rosy white. One of the best semi-doubles. \$0.75

**Mme. Emil Lemoine, 89**—(Lemoine, 1899). Semi-rose type of milk-white. Large double cup-shaped flowers, with imbricated petals. Fragrant and a free bloomer. \$1.50

**Monsieur Dupont, 85**—(Calot, 1872). A tall and erect semi-rose type of cream white, with petals streaked crimson and intermingled with yellow stamens. \$1.00

**Mont Blanc, 86**—(Lemoine, 1899). Compact, globular, rose type of milk white. Fragrant and free blooming. \$2.50

**Primvere, 86**—(Lemoine, 1907). Compact, flat bomb type, with creamy white guards splashed crimson and center light sulphur yellow. A near approach to yellow. \$3.00

### LATE WHITE

**Alsace Lorraine, 88**—(Lemoine, 1906). Semi-rose type of rich creamy white, with the center petals delicately tinted brownish yellow. Flowers in clusters. \$4.00

**Avalanche, 87**—(Crousse, 1886). A pure white with a creamy center often splashed with carmine. Opens like a rosebud and is very fragrant. Large, convex blooms on strong, erect stems. \$0.75

**Baroness Schroeder**, 90—(Kelway, 1899). Flesh white, sometimes light pink on first opening, fading to pure white. Delightfully fragrant with splendid keeping qualities as a cut flower. One of the most beautiful and valuable white peonies. \$1.50

**Couronne D'Or**, 81—(Calot, 1873). Flat, semi-rose type of white and yellow tints. A popular and free blooming variety. \$0.75

**Elizabeth Barrett Browning**, 91—(Brand, 1907). Soft, shell pink, bleaching to white with crimson markings on the edge of the rich and crinkled petals. A very beautiful white peony and valuable as a cut flower. \$5.00

**Enchantress**, 89—(Lemoine, 1903). Large rose type of creamy white, with guards splashed crimson. Center slightly flecked with crimson, with a greenish reflex. Blooms at end of season. \$4.00

**Frances Willard**, 91—(Brand, 1907). Full globular rose type of blush white, occasionally touched with carmine. Free blooming and fragrant, of strong and healthy growth. \$2.50

**Solange**, 97—(Lemoine, 1907). A very fine, rare peony. Waxy white with shades of buff and a glow of golden lights at heart. Flowers extra large with broad, rounded petals of fine form. \$4.00

## EARLY PINK

**Edulis Superba**, 78—(Lemoine, 1842). Brilliant deep pink. Early and fragrant as a rose. \$0.75

**Eugenie Verdier**, 86—(Calot, 1864). A tall and graceful hydrangea-pink peony of the semi-rose type. \$1.00

**La Fee**, 91—(Lemoine, 1906). Compact globular rose type of deep rose-pink with very long petals. A tall, free bloomer. \$10.00

**Monsieur Jules Elie**, 92—(Crousse, 1888). A compact, lilac-rose flower deeper at the base of the petals, with a silvery sheen. \$1.25

**Octavie Demay**, 85—(Calot, 1867). Flat crown type with guards and center pale hydrangea-pink and collar white. Exceedingly fragrant and of low-growing habit. \$1.00

**Therese**, 98—(Dessert, 1904). Delicate satiny pink with large, well formed flowers. An exquisite flower and a sure bloomer. \$3.00

## MID-SEASON PINK

**Claire Dubois**, 86—(Crousse, 1886). Compact, globular rose type of clear, deep, violet-rose, tipped silvery white. Large flowers and many blooms. \$1.00

**Elwood Pleas**, 87—(Pleas, 1900). Compact, rose type of light, violet-rose, shading lilac white. Large and very free blooming, possessing unusual lasting qualities when cut. \$3.00

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|--|--------|
| <b>Georgiana Shaylor, 89</b> —(Shaylor, 1908). Very large rose type of flesh pink, changing to delicate flesh-white in center. Low growing and strong.   | \$4.00 |
| <b>Lady Alexander Duff, 91</b> —(Kelway, 1902). An immense cup-shaped flower with very wide imbricated petals. A delicate blush pink shading lighter towards the center. A strong, free bloomer. The main blooms are double and the side blooms are single or semi-double. | \$3.00 |
| <b>Marie Crousse, 89</b> —(Crousse, 1892). Bomb type of soft salmon pink, shading to a satiny lilac. Enormous, fragrant flowers on strong stems.   | \$1.75 |
| <b>Martha Bulloch, 91</b> —(Brand, 1907). Shell pink, with silvery tints, shading to a deep rose-pink in center. A tall growing variety and the largest pink peony.  | \$8.00 |
| <b>Modeste Guerin, 78</b> —(Guerin, 1845). Bomb type of solferino-pink tinged carmine. Best peony of its color to bloom at this season.  | \$0.75 |
| <b>Reine Hortense, 87</b> —(Calot, 1857). Bomb type, with a delicate pink center flecked with crimson, surrounded by white. A tall, vigorous, free bloomer.  | \$1.50 |
| <b>Sarah Bernhardt, 90</b> —(Lemoine, 1906). Clear, deep, apple-blossom pink with silvery tipped petals. Very strong grower, bearing large, beautiful flowers in clusters. Fragrant and one of the finest pinks.   | \$1.75 |
| <b>Suzette, 80</b> —(Dessert, 1911). Brilliant rose-pink, interspersed with golden stamens. Semi-rose type of elegant shape. A profuse bloomer.  | \$2.00 |
| <b>Venus, 84</b> —(Kelway, 1888). Compact crown type of pale hydrangea-pink, collar lighter. Well formed and fragrant.   | \$2.00 |
| <b>Walter Faxon, 93</b> —(Richardson, 1904). A pleasing color combination of bright rose and dark center. A tall, strong free-bloomer, well-formed.  | \$5.00 |

## LATE PINK

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <b>Albert Crousse, 86</b> —(Crousse, 1893). Compact, flat, bomb type of shell pink with center slightly flecked crimson. Large flowers, petals convex and dense. Perfect form and free bloomer.                   | \$0.75 |
| <b>Chestine Gowdy, 84</b> —(Brand, 1913). A striking specimen of the cone-shaped peony. A silvery pink with deeper center. A single flower to stem, perfect form and possessing delightful fragrance.             | \$2.00 |
| <b>Grandiflora, 88</b> —(Richardson, 1885). An immense, bright shell pink, overlaid with lilac and delicate salmon with a golden glow in the depths of its imbricated waxen petals. Faint but pleasing fragrance. | \$1.50 |
| <b>La France, 90</b> —(Lemoine, 1901). A very large, apple-blossom pink of the compact rose type, with outer petals splashed with crimson. A free bloomer.  | \$5.00 |

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|---|---------|
| <b>Livingstone, 81</b> —(Crousse, 1879). Large, compact rose type of pale lilac-rose, silver tipped. Tall, reliable grower with exquisite buds.   | \$1.00  |
| <b>Lovliness, 88</b> —(Hollis, 1907). Large compact rose type. Flat, hydrangea-pink flowers changing to lilac white, the flowers borne in clusters.   | \$3.00  |
| <b>Marguerite Gerard, 84</b> —(Crousse, 1892). Flesh pink fading to white with yellow stamens distributed among petals. Large compact rose type of medium height.                                       | \$1.00  |
| <b>Milton Hill, 90</b> —(Richardson, 1891). Beautiful shade of clear pink, overlaid with a sheen of very delicate lilac. A beautiful cup-shaped flower of the rose type. Very late and very high class. | \$4.00  |
| <b>Mme. Auguste Dessert, 86</b> —(Dessert, 1899). Globular semi-rose flower of rose pink, flecked with crimson. Fragrant and a free bloomer.  | \$1.50  |
| <b>Modele de Perfection, 78</b> —(Crousse, 1875). Compact rose type of light violet rose, center darker.  | \$1.00  |
| <b>President Wilson, 94</b> —(Thurlow, 1918). Soft rose pink flower with occasional crimson marking. A very fragrant and exquisite variety.   | \$25.00 |
| <b>Tourangelle, 94</b> —(Dessert, 1910). Cream white overlaid with delicate shades of pink, salmon and buff. Beautiful cup-shaped flowers of exquisite coloring.  | \$3.00  |

## EARLY RED

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| <b>Adolphe Rousseau, 86</b> —(Dessert and Mechlin, 1890). Dark, velvety red with garnet hues and a distinct metallic reflex. One of the darkest. Ideal habit with tall, stiff stems.                                      | \$1.50  |
| <b>Augustin D'Hour ,78</b> —(Calot, 1867). Medium, compact bomb type of dark brilliant solferino red. The largest red peony.  | \$0.75  |
| <b>Cherry Hill, 87</b> —(Thurlow, 1915). Semi-rose type of deep garnet, showing a decided sheen. Very tall and erect.   | \$5.00  |
| <b>Longfellow, 90</b> —(Brand, 1907). The most brilliant crimson peony with a circle of golden stamens surrounding central petals. A long season and free-blooming. Tall and erect; a fine companion for Frances Willard. | \$4.00  |
| <b>Monsieur Martin Cahusac, 88</b> —(Dessert, 1899). Semi-rose type of very dark garnet, with a black reflex. The darkest peony grown.  | \$2.00  |
| <b>Officinalis Rubra</b> —The old-fashioned double deep red. Flowers for Decoration Day. One of the most decorative peonies.  | \$1.00  |
| <b>Phillipe Rivoire, 92</b> —(Riviere, 1911). An early rose type of dark crimson. Large, well formed, with sweet fragrance.   | \$15.00 |
| <b>Richard Carvel, 88</b> —(Brand, 1913). A large bright crimson of the bomb type. A profuse bloomer with delicate fragrance. The best of early reds.   | \$4.00  |

## MID-SEASON RED

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <b>Felix Crousse, 84</b> —(Crousse, 1881). Compact globular type of bright ruby red.  | \$1.00 |
| <b>Karl Rosefield, 88</b> —(Rosefield, 1908). Large semi-rose type of rich glowing crimson. Tall and erect, and a profuse bloomer.  | \$1.25 |
| <b>Mary Brand, 87</b> —(Brand, 1907). Full rose type of deep red. A large fragrant flower of medium height on strong stems possessing lasting qualities as a cut flower as well as in the garden.           | \$2.00 |
| <b>Meissonier, 78</b> —(Crousse, 1886). Medium size bomb type, developing a crown with age. A brilliant, uniform purple red. Tall free bloomer. Sometimes called the American Beauty and a fine cut flower. |        |
|   | \$1.00 |
| <b>Rosa Bonheur, 90</b> —(Dessert, 1905). Flat rose type of light violet-rose with guards flecked crimson. Flowers borne in clusters.   | \$4.00 |

## LATE RED

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| <b>Auguste Villaume, 73</b> —(Crousse, 1895). An extra large flower of magnificent form and delightful fragrance. Uniform color of rich violet-rose. | \$1.00  |
| <b>Brands Magnificent, 87</b> —(Brand, 1918). Semi-rose type of deep dark red with a bluish cast. Very beautiful in shape and of medium height.      | \$20.00 |

## SINGLE AND JAPANESE PEONIES

### PINK

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <b>Kelway's Wild Rose</b> —Rose shading to white at center; prominent yellow stamens. This medium sized single peony is similar in form and color to the native American Wild Rose and is very popular. | \$1.50 |
| <b>O Fugi</b> —A Japanese peony with guard petals of very light pink and center petals or petaloids white with a touch of yellow.   | \$1.00 |
| <b>Innocence</b> —A single peony of light lilac-rose with a canary yellow center. Tall, erect and a good bloomer.   | \$3.00 |

### WHITE

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>La Fiancee</b> —A large and beautiful single peony of pure white.   | \$2.00 |
| <b>Exquisite</b> —A Japanese peony of pure white, the center yellow. Guard petals of fine form and substance. Very lovely. | \$5.00 |

### RED

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <b>Mikado</b> —One of the best red Japanese peonies. Outer petals wide, dark crimson encircling a cushion of golden petaloids, crimson edged and golden tipped. | \$2.00 |
| <b>Carnot</b> —A single peony, bright carmine-red in color with prominent yellow stamens.   | \$1.00 |



## CLASSIFICATION

Peonies are classed as follows: Single—Those with a single row of wide guard petals, and a center of pollen-bearing stamens. Japanese—These resemble the single, but with the stamens and anthers in the center enlarged into narrow various colored petaloids. Crown—In this type the large petals form a high crown in the center of the flower, with smaller petals forming a collar around it. Bomb—This is the next step in doubling, and all of the center petals are uniformly sized, but differ from the guard petals. Rose—The completed double peony with all stamens transformed into large petaloids, similar in size to the guards.

## FALL PLANTING

FALL PLANTING OF PEONIES IS IMPERATIVE. We suggest, however, that you make your selection and place your order during the blooming season while the picture is fresh in your mind to insure your receiving the desired variety. We will make delivery at the proper planting time

## OTHER PLANTS FOR FALL

IRIS can be moved at any time but the best results are obtained by June or July planting.

ORIENTAL POPPIES and MADONNA LILIES require planting in August. These gems should also be ordered while yet in mind, before the proper planting time is passed.

Other plants which are best planted in the fall are:—

|            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| Aconitum   | Lilies             |
| Delphinium | Lily-of-the-Valley |
| Dictamnus  | Mertensia          |
| Eremurus   | Platycodon         |

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# How to get to the GARDENS of The Roberts Rose Company

Go south on Broadway to Englewood. Turn east on Hampden, the main corner, to Emerson Street where you will see the large greenhouses. Or go south on South University to the road beyond Wellshire Park. Turn west to Emerson Street. Here you will see Lilies, Peonies, Iris, Phlox, all other hardy plants, Trees, Shrubs and Evergreens in immense variety. A visit is an education. Phone South 8163 or drive out.